



“Joy In Suffering (Through Servanthood)”
Philippians 2
December 8, 2024
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Chapter 2:1-4 begins where chapter 1 left off, with Paul thinking about preserving church _____.

1. Has Paul heard of something going on in the church that makes him concerned about this?
 - _____ teachings are circulating, threatening the church. (3:2)
 - Influential leaders in the church are _____ with each other. (4:2)
2. Tips for preserving church health and unity:
 - Grab hold of _____. God gives you to preserve peace. (vs.1)
 - Remember: unity is not _____. (vs.2)
 - Recognize and tamp down your _____. (vs.3a)
 - Put others _____. (vs.3b)
 - Dying to yourself doesn't mean that you _____. (vs.4) *What is – and isn't – true humility?*

This is how Jesus served and suffered for us. (vss.5-11)

1. How do these verses teach that Jesus is God?
 - Jesus was in the “form” of God. What does “form” mean?

- “...he did not count *equality* with God...” (cf. Hebrews 1:3)

Objection: If Jesus is God, then why does Paul say in verse 9, “Therefore God has highly exalted [Jesus]...”? Answer:

- Paul takes Isaiah 45:22-23 and applies it to Christ.
- Paul takes Isaiah 45:18 and applies it to Christ.

2. But that Jesus is God is just part of what Paul wants to share with us here. What's the real mind-blowing truth?

Based on what Christ has done for us, Paul gives us two admonitions in verses 12-18.

Admonition #1: We are to _____ with fear and trembling.

Admonition #2: We are to do all things without _____ or _____.

If we want to shine like lights for Jesus, then we need to be willing to suffer and serve like Jesus, like Paul, and like two others that Paul mentions in vss.19-30. Who were they, and how did they suffer and serve? Am I willing to follow in their footsteps?

“Make heaven your aim, you'll get earth thrown in. Aim only at earth, you'll get neither.” – C.S. Lewis